

# Ripley County Democrat.

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## 'ROUNDABOUT THE STATE.

Gleaned from Exchanges--Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot--Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.

A bank was organized at Thayer fifteen years ago and one man took ten shares for \$1,000. Since that time he has received \$1,200 in dividends and sold the stock a few days ago for \$3,000.

Willow Springs, Howell county, has a mystery in the shape of a dead man, who died in his room at a hotel there. Parties have come from Indiana and other states to try to identify the body, but have not been able to do so.

Richard Beckett, the 19-year-old boy who, several weeks ago passed and attempted to pass several forged checks around town was sentenced Tuesday by Judge Huok to five years in the pen.—Fredricktown Democrat-News.

In November, 1912, J. L. Justice of Ilmo was attacked by dogs and one arm and both legs were badly bitten by the vicious animals. He has now, through his attorney, filed suit against five men, owners of the dogs, for \$5,000 each as damages for his hurts.

Last week J. L. Pratt sold to a De Soto butcher five hogs which were exactly six months old. The five weighed 1030 pounds, averaging 206 pounds each. They were of the Duroc Jersey breed. Can you beat that for 6 months old hogs?—Hillsboro Democrat.

Citizens of Wayne county are circulating a petition for signers which will be presented to the county court asking that an election be called to submit a proposition to vote a bond issue of \$200,000 to be used for the purpose of improving the public roads of that county.

The recent vacancy caused by the death of Judge Rainey of Cape Girardeau who presided over the Common Pleas Court of that county, will be filled by an election called by the governor. Senator Lane and John H. Snider have announced their intention of seeking the place.

It pays to breed fine chickens. M. L. Puckett showed us a letter he received from J. Louis Crum of Fayette, Mo., enclosing \$20 for a hen and pullet from one of his prize pens. Ten dollars a piece for chickens is a good price, yet care and careful breeding will bring fancy prices.—Puxico Index.

Doctors at West Plains last week operated upon a negro, who was injured a few months ago, on an Atlantic transport, while caring for mules being sent to Europe. He was taken off the ship at the first port, and the vessel was destroyed by a submarine, before it reached its destination, and all on board were lost.

W. R. Lacey, editor of the Caruthersville Twice-a-Week Democrat, died at his home in that city, at 11:40 p. m. January 28th, aged 49 years, 1 month and 22 days. In the death of W. R. Lacey the Southeast Missouri Press Association, of which he was an active member and vice-president, loses one of its truest members. Broad, liberal minded, generous, warm hearted, he was that type of man seldom fully appreciated when living, but sadly missed after he is gone.

Dr. D. A. Parker and O. D. Hall sold fifty thousand pounds of sunflower seed—a car load, to a St. Louis firm last week for which they received \$4.75 per hundred. Dr. Parker was the first gentleman who experimented on sunflowers in Caldwell.—Outlook.

According to a statement made by John T. Fitzpatrick, state labor commissioner, 1915 is to be the greatest year ever known for labor in Missouri and the United States. Fitzpatrick says that there is an insistent demand from the east upon the west for labor. This demand, he says, is principally from the railroads and iron and steel industries.

Marshall John McAllister, who shot and killed Jim Jones at Bloomfield two weeks ago, was acquitted on preliminary trial at Bloomfield on last Saturday. The evidence was strong, showing that it was a case of self defense, and that Jones attempted to shoot McAllister and did snap his pistol at him before McAllister fired. It was further proven that Jones in his drinking period had threatened the marshal and stated he would kill him.—Dexter Messenger.

It has developed that N. R. Duke, a Baptist preacher at Cooter, Mo., who disappeared from that town about two weeks ago, is a bigamist, and is alleged to have two living wives, his second wife was formerly Miss Linnie Russell of Cooter, a very highly respected young lady of that place. He was a member of the Odd Fellows lodge there, and steps are being taken to ascertain his whereabouts and he will be summarily dealt with if found.—Caruthersville Democrat.

"Dago" McLain, a negro wanted in various places in this state and in Arkansas, was arrested at Poplar Bluff last week after he had been seen entering the mouth of a sewer where there was a trap door in the floor of a room. The officers found hundreds of dollars worth of dry goods and clothing in the room above the sewer opening. A negro was found in the house. It is believed the negro had been robbing stores at Poplar Bluff and in neighboring towns for several months.

Puxico Index: The revival of the iron industry in this state may in the end benefit this community as we have the ore in large quantities. Besides the large Chicago corporation recently organized with sufficient capital to take over the rich iron lands in Butler and Wayne counties, the news comes that a five million corporation has been organized in St. Louis and will take over the old St. Louis Blast Furnace Co., and will enlarge the plant and build more to it. When the Pico Iron Mines near this city were operated a few years ago the ore was sold to the St. Louis Blast Furnace Co., and when the furnace company went broke the mines were closed because there was no market for the ore. It is claimed for the Pico ore that it is a brown hematite and very soft in quality, just the kind needed to mix with hard ore secured from other places in the manufacture of high grade iron.

A. T. Young, operator at the Iron Mountain depot, took the section motor car out for a joy ride Sunday. He had just reached Miner Switch when the car caught on fire and was entirely consumed by the flames. Mr. Young was not injured, we are glad to say.—Sikeston Standard.

A most pitiful object of humanity drifted into town one day the first of the week and was around here a day or two. The poor old fellow was an inmate of the county farm a couple of years ago and for some reason concluded that he preferred the "road" and left. The old fellow's feet were very sore from chilblains. His face also showed the marks of exposure and his clothes were anything but clean or comfortable. Now just why a man would prefer such a life to being where he could have regular meals and a comfortable place to stay is more than we can understand.—Marble Hill Press.

Congressman Russell, some weeks ago introduced a bill in congress to pay a claim of \$128,24 cents due Thomas R. Mason, of Dexter, Stoddard county, for services rendered 50 years ago, while carrying the mail in Kentucky and Tennessee. On account of the outbreak of the civil war the route was suspended and the amount due him entered on the books of the postoffice department at Washington, but was never paid. Mason afterwards moved to Missouri and a bill has passed the house three times to pay this claim, but failed to reach the senate. Since Congressman Russell introduced the bill at this session, Mr. Mason has died, but Mr. Russell hopes to get the claim allowed for the benefit of the widow, who survives.

Last year horses could hardly be given away, while mules had slumped about fifty per cent in value, but now a big change has taken place, especially regarding mules, for well built animals are in demand and are bringing prices about like in "the good old days." As evidence of this assertion a number of sales made in the last few days will serve. Hez Estes bought a span of mules from Russell Webb for \$485, paid C. C. Gladish \$450 for a team and \$425 to John Gladish for a span. On Monday also he paid Ferdinand Kuble \$400 for a team. Wash Gladish sold one team to a dealer for \$390, while a number of sales of single horses and mules have been made at \$150 and \$160. There is a demand from the warring countries, but the big factor is that the south again has money with which to enter the market.—Jackson Items.

Not long ago the National Forestry Association of the United States, gave a big tree contest by which they made effort to locate all the extra large trees in the United States. We do not know of a tree around here eligible in this contest but on the farm of C. J. Sorrel east of this city, there is still the remains of what was at one time undoubtedly one of the largest trees in this section. Only the stump now remains. Some twenty years ago Uncle Mart Cline and a lumberman by the name of Ahrens measured this tree, which was a poplar, and found it 32 feet in circumference. Some time later the tree was cut. Several charges of dynamite have been unsuccessfully fired under it and it still resists all attempts to burn it. Even now the remains of the stump take up four corn rows' width.—Bloomfield Vindicator.

## Grippe.

Furnished by the Department of Preventive Medicine, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.

For the last five or six weeks, the country, from one end to the other has been experiencing an epidemic of what is generally known as grippe.

Symptoms are those of a severe cold with more or less sore throat, cough, pains in the head and about the body. In some cases the symptoms are quite persistent.

It seems certain that the great majority, at least, of these cases are not true grippe. Some bacteriologists have reported finding Streptococcus in the throat and not the bacillus which causes grippe. Nevertheless, the prevention is exactly the same for such a case as for the true grippe.

The disease is acutely contagious. Contagion takes place most readily by direct contact. The more intimate and prolonged this contact, the greater the danger of contagion. Persons should avoid crowds as much as possible, and if it is necessary to be with those suffering from the symptoms which have been described, they should insist as far as possible upon such persons keeping at a respectful distance. While coughing or sneezing, the person afflicted should keep the mouth and nose covered with a handkerchief. Kissing, especially, should be avoided. The habit which many mothers have of blowing the noses of a number of children in the same handkerchief should not be practiced.

There is no specific which will prevent this cold. The best methods of prevention are a good diet, consisting of nutritious, but light, foods, the use of the cold baths daily, sleeping with an abundance of fresh air and the avoidance of excesses of all kinds. Especially to be avoided is prolonged overheating in close, stuffy rooms and railroad trains. Avoid patent medicines in the treatment. Those recommended for the relief of such symptoms almost invariably contain the coal-tar preparations, most of which depress the heart and are dangerous. Consult a good physician and do not fill the system with dope.

## Formalin Treatment of Seed Oats.

C. B. Hutchison, University of Missouri, College of Agriculture.

Missouri farmers probably lose about two million bushels of oats a year from the decrease in yield because of smut. At the 1915 farm price of about thirty-seven cents a bushel, this amounts to a loss of \$740,000 a year which is easily prevented by means of the formalin treatment of seed oats. The seedlike spores of smut pass the winter in the grain and when the untreated kernel sprouts in the spring the spores begin to grow and develop a little plant within the oat plant. The smut plant remains near the top of the growing oat plant and is ready to replace the kernels with black dustlike spores which give the heads the black appearance which they present in the fields and blow to other oat plants to infect the young grain from which next year's seed must be selected.

The best method that the Missouri College of Agriculture can recommend for preventing this loss is the formalin treatment. Mix with forty or fifty gallons of water, a pint of formalin (forty per cent formaldehyde), which can be secured at any drug store. The oats may be sacked and dip-

ped in a barrel of this solution until they are thoroly soaked, or piled on the barn floor and thoroly sprinkled with it. After treatment they should be covered with blankets or sacks for four or five hours so that the formalin will not evaporate too quickly, but they must be stirred frequently until thoroly dry in order that they may not heat.

Some inexpensive machines now on the market for treating wheat and oats give very good results. They pass the grain thru a tank containing formalin and dump it out on the floor to dry.

Altho formalin has a very unpleasant effect upon the eyes and is very poisonous, it is not really dangerous to handle in such a weak solution and any left over seed may safely be fed to any farm animal after it has been thoroly aired for some time.

## Tye Law of Diminishing Returns.

Deep soil and sufficient plant food are no more essential for growing corn than room. If we had unlimited land at our disposal and wanted to grow 100 bushels of corn, we could raise that amount with the least effort by planting a large number of acres. But land is all occupied. We cannot have all we need to produce the 100 bushels with the least labor. Instead of planting a large area in corn, we reduce the number of acres and put on more labor. One hundred bushels can be produced on two acres on most land in Southeast Missouri with a very moderate amount of labor. One might produce this amount on one acre if he would give the necessary labor.

Suppose to produce 60 bushels of corn on one acre required 20 hours of labor. It does not follow that if we put 40 hours of labor on the same acre we could grow 126 bushels. A total of 40 hours would probably produce only 80 bushels. That is, the first 20 hours produced 60 bushels and the second 20 hours produced only 20 bushels.

In an article last week we tried to show how a system of renting land could be devised that would equitably distribute this last 20 bushels between the landlord and tenant. If the landlord received only one-third up to 60 bushels and a smaller per cent or none at all produced above 60 bushels, the tenant would be encouraged to do better farming.

SETH BASCOCK,  
Department of Agriculture,  
State Normal School, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

## Manure The Wheatfield.

There are few places where manure shows better returns than in top dressing wheat during the fall and winter. This is particularly true on thin land where wheat starts slowly in the spring and where clover and grass are apt to fail. The readily available plant food from the manure gives a quick thrifty growth, while the surface protection offered aids materially in preventing freezing out.

A top dressing of this kind almost insures a grass or clover stand on land where these crops are inclined to fail. The manure should be applied at the rate of five to seven loads to the acre with a manure spreader. It may be scattered by hand but it is difficult to get it on evenly in such small quantities. It is best to set the manure spreader in the

lowest notch and make the supply of manure cover as much ground as possible.—M. F. Miller, University of Missouri, College of Agriculture.

## HOLD BEAR HUNT IN PARK

Fireman Finally Kills Bad-Tempered Pet Which Had Been City Zoo Attraction.

Elkhart, Ind.—A real bear hunt in Willowdale park followed the escape of a two-year-old bear owned by Frank Brumbaugh. The animal had been sent to Mr. Brumbaugh when a cub by a friend in northern Michigan. It recently developed a bad temper and the owner decided to have it killed.

Brumbaugh and his brother, Charles, led Babe, as the bear was known, out of a barn. The animal broke away and resisted capture so strenuously that both men suffered tooth and claw wounds on their hands. They then permitted the fugitive to trot to the nearby park.

Frank Little, a city fireman, who is known as a good marksmen, was summoned with his rifle. His first shot only wounded the bear, which then climbed to the top of a high oak, roaring defiance. Little's second shot brought down the animal, the ball piercing its brain. The bear was one of the attractions in the city park zoo during the summer.

## COSTA RICAN BEAUTY



Miss Marie de la Guardia, daughter of the Costa Rican minister to Great Britain, recently came to the United States to escape the war. She will remain in New York until the war is ended.

## DOG SAVES WOUNDED HUNTER

Brings Aid to Master Who Almost Bleeds to Death in the Woods.

Alton, Ill.—Edmund Weis, eighteen, son of a wealthy farmer living near Freeburg, Ill., owes his life to his hunting dog, which saved him from bleeding to death, after he had been shot by another hunter.

Weis was in some timber near his home, and as he came into a small clearing, another hunter whom Weis saw, but did not recognize, fired. The charge struck Weis in the legs and rendered him helpless. When the other man saw the effect of his wild shot, he ran.

Weis fainted from loss of blood. A passing farmer heard the howling and barking of a dog and traced it. He found the dog near his unconscious master. Weis was taken to St. Elizabeth's hospital in Belleville, where it is stated that his condition is critical. He lost a large amount of blood and would have bled to death but for the aid summoned by the dog, according to hospital physicians.

## PREACHER WINS IN COTTON

Cleans Up \$30,000 Which He Will Put Into Trade School for Poor Children.

Atlanta.—As a result of investment of \$100 in cotton when the staple was down to seven cents the Rev. Stephen D. Creman, pastor of Mount Vernon Southern Methodist church in Atlanta has \$30,000.

When the bottom fell out Mr. Creman put his \$100 in cotton, borrowed all he could on the staple and bought more. When the cotton began climbing the pastor kept on "pyramiding" as heavily as he could until he held \$30,000 worth of the staple.

The minister now is disposing of his holdings and proposes to put the money in a trade school for poor children.

"I have always wanted to give poor children a chance by teaching them a trade," he says, "and now I am able to do it."